

the least offensive of anything we're looking at, LB 355, and I oppose the Ashford amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chizek. Before I go to the next speaker, I would like to introduce some more guests to the Legislature. They are 42 fourth graders from the Morton School in Hastings with their teachers, and they are in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Speaker Baack. Just to go over some of the...we did this the other day, but the points keep getting brought up, and I feel it's important that we go over them again. Last night I was in Wayne, and had the opportunity, my first opportunity to go to Wayne State, and they all love Senator Conway in Wayne, I'll tell you. But...And we went through many of these misconceptions that Senator Hefner has raised today, and that Senator Schellpeper has raised today. And I did drive by Stanton, Senator Schellpeper, I didn't go in, but I didn't want to press my luck. But I'm sure that...But, in any event, I appreciated being there because I heard from the people outside of this body, and heard what they had to say, and the concerns that they had. Their number one concern, at least the gun owners, is registration. Their number two concern is having to go through and have a check done each time they buy a handgun. Those are the number two concerns. The Schellpeper amendment, or my amendment now, LB 801, requires that there be a check done each time that a gun is purchased. That is not the way that 355 now reads. LB 355, as you know, provides for an annual permit. The gun owners and the gun people up in Wayne were very concerned about that and were happy to see that LB 355 was an annual permit bill. Secondly, the second concern that the gun owners in Wayne talked to me about was registration. And we talked about what Senator Moore talked about, is the historical concept in our country that the right to bear arms is ingrained in our society, and I'm not going to debate that, it is ingrained in our society. But the concern was registration. What do we do about registration? The Chizek amendment has done away with all references to registration, all references to registration. Senator Hefner keeps talking about registration. He should read the bill. There is no registration in LB 355. The cost, there is no question, there is no question, Senator Schellpeper has said it on two occasions, both in this body and on the flo...on...on...in committee, that this bill is too expensive. It costs \$185,000. In Virginia the costs have